

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 6, 10 and 15 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 6-15 will be pending herein upon entry of this Amendment. For the reasons stated below, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response, claim 15 has been amended to address the concern raised by the Examiner in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 15, as amended, complies with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Also, in the Office Action, claims 6-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,452,925 to Sistanizadeh et al. ("Sistanizadeh"). Sistanizadeh is directed to a method for providing internet access via Public Switched Telecommunications Network (PSTN). A subscriber communicates with a DHCP server to obtain a temporary IP address. The DHCP server assigns the temporary IP address to the subscriber and updates a database in a DNS. Thereafter, the subscriber sends a DNS Request for a specific server. The subscriber receives a DNS reply from the DNS and establishes the connection with the specific server.

Sistanizadeh does not teach or suggest a method "wherein the signaling connection and the payload connection are maintained simultaneously during the data transmission," as recited in claims 6 and 10, as amended (or "maintaining a first connection between a subscriber and a

service provider...and intermittently setting up a second connection between the subscriber and the service provider when transmitting data," as recited in claim 11). Although the Office Action refers to various sections of Sistanizadeh, those sections of Sistanizadeh only disclose that a connection to the DHCP server is made to obtain a temporary IP address, and then a connection to the service provider is established after the temporary IP address is obtained. Also, it is well known in the art that the connection between a subscriber (e.g., client) and a DHCP server is terminated once the subscriber receives a temporary IP address from the DHCP server. Clearly, Sistanizadeh does not teach or suggest two connections (i.e., a signal connection and a payload connection) being simultaneously maintained during data transmission. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6 and 10, as amended, and claim 11 are not anticipated by Sistanizadeh.

Applicants also submit that dependent claims 7-9 and 12-15 are also not anticipated by Sistanizadeh, at least for those reasons as set forth above with regard to the independent claims.

In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: Amended claims w/ Markings

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

6. (Amended) A method for controlling connections in a communication network, comprising the steps of:

setting up a signaling connection between a subscriber of the communication network and a service access system based on a service connection request by the subscriber; and

setting up a payload connection associated with the signaling connection between the service access system and the subscriber only [given] when there is data traffic for a service and clearing down the payload connection after the data transmission,

wherein the signaling connection and the payload connection are maintained simultaneously during the data transmission.

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10. (Amended) A method for controlling service connections in a communication network in order to support access to a service via the communication network, comprising the steps of:

initiating the setup of a service-related signaling connection between a subscriber and a service access system;

initiating the setup of a payload connection between the service access system and the subscriber associated with the signaling connection only [given] when there is data traffic and initiating the cleardown of the payload connection after data transmission,

wherein the signaling connection and the payload connection are maintained simultaneously during the data transmission.

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15. (Amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising
clearing down the second connection after the end of data transmission and
[approximately] when the time interval has already been charged.

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